Building Strong Families

In Mercer County

OUR FOCUS
Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families throughout Kentucky. Our educational programs focus on making healthy lifestyle choices, nurturing families, embracing life as we age, securing financial stability, promoting healthy homes and communities, accessing nutritious food, and empowering community leaders.

OUR SUCCESS
In 2018-2019, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 5,869 contacts with individuals and families in Mercer County.

Luci Hockersmith
County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences Education

SPOTLIGHT: MERCER COUNTY

County Fair Floral Hall event

The 2019 Kentucky Extension Community Assessment report for Mercer County showed top priorities for “increased support for small business” and “more market opportunities for farmers.” The Mercer County Cooperative Extension Service partnered with the Mercer County Fair Board, Arts Council of Mercer County, and Extension Leaders (including Homemakers, Master Gardeners, cultural arts groups, and farmers’ market vendors) to develop a successful County Fair Floral Hall event. The event regularly utilizes 20 to 30 volunteers from ages 8 to 88. In 2019, there were 120 exhibitors and 768 exhibits totaling $2,200 in premiums given out and 695 exhibit visitors over the weeklong event. This program allowed residents to exhibit at the State Fair by dropping their entries at the Extension office. Participants won a total of five ribbons at the State Fair. Follow-up information will be available after July 15, 2020.
KENTUCKY EXTENSION PROGRAMMING
COMMUNITY IMPACT

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension professionals actively work to reach our goals by offering educational programs that serve to improve the quality of life for individuals and families in our commonwealth. Mercer County’s FCS Extension programming in 2018-2019 contributed to the following results in Kentucky.

- **265,288** youth participated in local Extension programming.
- **25,496** pints of food were preserved.
- **$114,057** increase in sales due to Plate it Up Kentucky Proud.
- **492,813** volunteer hours were reported by FCS Extension program volunteers.
- **16,478,089** miles were walked by program participants.
- **71,525** participants reported making positive behavior changes.

**Plate it Up!**
Browse and download more than 100 delicious, healthy recipes from Plate it Up Kentucky Proud. PlatetItUp.ca.uky.edu

Source: Kentucky Cooperative Extension Reporting, FY2019
Download this and other county profiles at hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.